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FRANK A. MUNSEY

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WHERE WILL LOWER GAS RATES COME IN?

In his very illuminating argument before the House District Committee, Mr. Richard H. Goldsborough builds up a most beautiful legal foundation for the capitalization process which his corporation, the Washington Gas Light Company, has been working under for many years and under which it proposes to continue to operate in the future if public sentiment and Congress permit.

Mr. Goldsborough makes an excellent case for the defense of the practice of the gas company in capitalizing surplus, citing Supreme Court opinions in great number and laying down an elaborate array of evidence to show that the rule of judicial action on the point at issue is favorable to his people. Briefly, his contention is that the gas company is entitled to earn a reasonable profit on the total value of its property, without regard to the amount of securities standing against it, without regard to the size of the original, actual investments of outside moneys in that property, and without regard to the fact (which he frankly admits), that much of the total value is represented by earnings which have been turned back into the company for betterments and extensions, and by the natural increase in the value of real estate purchased in the past, but made more valuable because of the increasing prosperity of the community.

Mr. Goldsborough admits that dividends of from 10 to 25 per cent per annum have been paid on capital stock, but defends this fact by showing that this has been but 4 or 5 or 6 per cent on the total value of the property, which, he says, is the basis upon which returns should be computed in any attempt to decide whether they are reasonable.

It will be well for the House District Committee to go a little further than Mr. Goldsborough went in his discussion of the case. For instance, if he is right, and if the gas company is permitted to continue its capitalization scheme on his theory, where will we wind up? In all the plausible argument of Mr. Goldsborough, there appears no definite outline of the system by which the company will ever reduce its gas rates under the theory of capitalization and value propounded by the learned attorney. Under its existing rates it has been able to meet the expense of manufacture and distribution, put enormous sums back into the property, capitalize them, and pay dividends upon them. It has also been permitted to capitalize the increased value of its real estate and pay dividends upon that. All, understand, on its existing, legal rates of charge.

The gas company wants to continue that system. Wherefore, we ask, when may Washington expect cheaper gas? Much of the property which represents the total value of the company today—upon which Mr. Goldsborough says the stockholders are entitled to 5 or 6 per cent—was purchased with money paid into the company by consumers of gas. If the company keeps right on adding to the value with its current receipts, and then demands and gets the right to issue stock representing that value, it will always be in position to resist reduction in charges to consumers, on the ground that it has the right to charge enough to pay dividends on this additional capitalization.

The House District Committee should not overlook the fact that the purpose of the Coudrey resolution is to prevent the issue of any more capitalization of this character without the express consent of Congress, and that underlying that, is the theory that if such capitalization is restricted it will be possible for the company to reduce its rates of charge to the people of the District of Columbia.

A REVIVAL OF THE "SPELLING BEE."

Lynchburg has been reviving the old-time spelling bee. A country grammar school challenged a leading high school. The contest was held in the rooms of the Y. M. C. A., and the twenty high school contestants went down before ten of the grammar school representatives had missed a word.

The incident has not only served to call attention to the thoroughness with which some of the country schools drill pupils in the essentials of education, thereby throwing an interesting light upon an important subject, but it has called

public attention to an old-time exercise which combines amusement with instruction. The man who has not participated in, or at least witnessed, an old-fashioned spelling bee, preferably with the classic "blue-back" speller as the test medium, has largely lived in vain. With its ascending scale of difficult words, ranging from "lady" to "phthisis," and shading off into the illustrated fables about old dog Tray and others in the back of the book, it served to train the minds of more than a generation. It would still be an indispensable feature if the spelling bee were to be really old-fashioned.

To make the occasion interesting there should be a goodly sprinkling of the elders, merely to show how easily we forget. This unmasking of the grown-ups provides an unending fund of innocent enjoyment. Of course, there must be a padded leather edition of "Lucile" as a prize, but it is nothing as compared with the ice cream and crullers, or maybe a more substantial feast, which would round out the evening.

Bridge whist, "twenty questions," and the Ouija board have crowded out the spelling bee, even in the countryside, and it is gratifying to note that there are signs of a revival.

SENATOR BOURNE ON POPULAR GOVERNMENT.

Senator Bourne of Oregon lately made a speech in the Senate in which he discussed popular versus delegated government, and the effect it has on legislation. This speech has not only been much talked about, but there are evidences that it has done something that Senate speeches rarely do, made an impression on Senators themselves. Senator Bourne was able to point out some striking things in connection with the workings of the Oregon system of popular government, including the direct primary, the initiative and referendum, the recall, and the corrupt practices act. He maintained that Oregon has the best system of popular government in the world today, and if he did not fully convince on that point, he was nevertheless able to marshal a strong showing of facts in support of his assertions.

Senator Bourne laid down the idea that direct selection of public servants is the remedy for the loss of confidence by the people in their public officials. He believes there is great force in direct selection by the people of their public servants with resultant accountability to the people and not to a political machine or boss. He told of the flagrant conditions in Oregon that led to the adoption of the present legislation. In direct contrast with those politicians who are hunting around for excuses to prevent direct nominations through the primary, Senator Bourne maintains not only that the people are capable of governing themselves, but that they "are decidedly the best judges as to those individuals to whom they shall delegate the truly representative power."

It is encouraging to have a public man like Senator Bourne speak out in a forum like the Senate in support of the direct primary and the direct selection of officials. It is the more encouraging for the reason that Senator Bourne is not a theorist, but a man who has had thirty years' experience with every phase of practical politics. He well points out that the Oregon primary law was subjected to a severe strain when Senator Chamberlain was elected and it stood that test. He is an advocate of the popular selection of the President and Vice President.

Not the least interesting phase of Senator Bourne's address consisted in what he said of Oregon's experience with the initiative and referendum. He declared that experience had been satisfactory, the people of Oregon having voted on twenty-three measures submitted to them under the initiative, five under the referendum, and four referred to them by the Legislature. As to this, and all phases of the system of direct selection of officials and direct legislation, what Senator Bourne has said, based on knowledge of practical workings in his State, is in remarkable contrast to the statements of those who are seeking to lay obstacles in the way of primary legislation and all that appertains to the elimination of the old system of boss and machine control of government.

WHY DO WOMEN SLAVE FOR WORTHLESS MEN?

An old but unsolved question crops out of the tangled horror of the Albert Wolter case. It is created by the presence of Kate Mueller in the tragedy. She it was upon whom the degenerate Wolter depended for support. A devoted drudge in a bake shop, she toiled early and late, while Wolter, who didn't even have the decency to permit her to enjoy the self-respect of wedlock, dawdled away his time in their miserable home, content to live upon her scant earnings.

Why does any woman, no matter what her station, slave, as Kate Mueller slaved, for a worthless man? Thousands upon thousands of them do it. They debase themselves, starve themselves, cut themselves off from the companionship of others of their sex, go without sufficient clothing to keep themselves warm, and suffer the limits of humiliation and degradation, with abuse, frequently to the extent of physical violence, as their reward.

Fortunately for Kate Mueller, kindly disposed people have become interested in her case and will try to rescue her

from the misery in which the police found her. But there are many Kate Muellers, and very, very few rescue parties. Why she permitted Albert Wolter to subsist grudgingly upon her bounty, and why so many like her permit Albert Wolters to live on their very hearts' blood, has not yet been answered, and it will not be for a long time to come. It is an unsolved puzzle offered by an almost unbelievable large number of women.

That New Jersey woman who has been arrested for eloping to Denver with a man not her husband and who gave as her reason the fact that she was ill and wanted to live in a better climate, is said to have found Colorado less healthful than she expected.

If that Swedish surgeon can keep Mr. Roosevelt quiet he should emigrate to America at once. He could command fabulous prices for his services from a number of gentlemen in this country well able to pay big bills.

Speaker Cannon has canceled all his Chautauqua dates. It is not stated whether the action was caused by engagements which he expects to have in the Eighteenth Illinois District this summer.

It is probable, however, that a sore throat isn't the only reason Mr. Roosevelt doesn't give voice to a number of things on which his word is anxiously awaited.

The photographer who was licked on the pier by Tom Johnson will be excused if he doubts the report that the ex-mayor of Cleveland is in bad health.

It is highly appropriate that Governor Hughes, being our leading exponent of facial ailments, should be a director in the newly organized back-to-the-farm society.

The fact that \$30,000 is reported to have figured in a poker game in Atlanta doesn't look as if the South is forgetting its traditions.

In spite of its anti-mosquito beliefs, New Jersey seems to be determined to stave the Chicago packers.

Austria would change the title of Elsie Vauciare from "Archduchess" to "Arch-Adventures."

And still there are people who say Illinois doesn't need a primary law.

Having succeeded in grabbing Korea, Japan will now proceed to annex it.

The comet fan is getting numerous.

BROTHERS REUNITED BY PICTURE SHOW

Figure on Canvas Recognized by Pennsylvanian As Lost Relative.

DENVER, May 9.—John Robinson discovered through a moving picture at Denver that his brother William still lives. The men were separated by the Johnstown flood years ago, each thinking the other dead. Following the clue he found his brother in Los Angeles.

In Denver seeking health Robinson visited a motion picture theater a few weeks ago. One of the films shown on the evening he attended was that of the aviation meet in Los Angeles.

In a section of the grandstand shown in the picture Robinson recognized what he thought to be his brother. Staying for another performance and again seeing the man he was so convinced that it was his brother that he went to the California city and after searching several days found his relative.

When the great catastrophe visited the Pennsylvania city many years ago the Robinson brothers were young men. Following the abating of the flood they looked for each other for several days, but failing to find each other, each thinking the other dead, went to other places to make their homes.

In a letter to friends here Robinson tells of the finding of his brother, who is a well-known merchant, he says, of the southern California metropolis.

SIX DRINKS EQUAL HARD DAY'S WORK

Effect of Whisky on Body and Brain Shown By Experiments.

CHICAGO, May 9.—Half a dozen drinks of whisky in a day will produce the same effect of fatigue on brain and body as a day's hard work. This has been proved by experiments, according to Dr. William J. Wick in an address to the Chicago Medical Society.

Dr. Wick actually tried muscles, the nerves, and the brain," he said. "A man who had rested an entire day, vigorous and fresh, was at hard labor. At the end of the day he was subjected to physical and nerve tests to prove the extent of the fatigue."

Then he rested another day and was given six drinks within the next day, doing no work. The second examination showed his body and nerves had undergone the same fatigue as on the day he worked.

What's on the Program Tonight in Washington

Georgetown Citizens' Association, Potomac Hall, Wisconsin avenue and M street, 8 p. m.
Northeast Washington Citizens' Association, Northeast Temple, Twelfth and H streets northeast, 8:30 p. m.

Theaters.
Belasco—May 9th arrival by pupils of Mrs. Marion Mattingly, 8:30 p. m.
National—"El Capitán," 8:15 p. m.
Columbia—"Gloria," 8:15 p. m.
Chase—"Polite vaudeville," 8:15 p. m.
Academy—"Gaustrick," 8:15 p. m.
Casino—Continuous vaudeville.
Gayety—Bowery Burlesques, 8:15 p. m.
Lyceum—Cole and Johnson, 8:15 p. m.
Barnum and Bailey's circus, Fifteenth and H streets northeast, 8 p. m.
Majestic—Motion pictures and vaudeville, 7 to 11 p. m.
Masonic Auditorium—Motion pictures, 7:30 to 10:30 p. m.
Arcade—Midway and other attractions.

(The Times will be pleased to announce meetings and entertainments in this column. Phone or write announcements.)

In the Mail Bag

The Times will accept for publication in its Mail Bag column, short, vigorous letters on questions of public interest. It cannot undertake to publish letters exceeding 250 words, and reserves the right rigidly to condense communications which are of greater length. Letters should be written on one side of the paper only, and must contain the name and address of the writer, but these will not be published if request to that effect is made.

South Was Protected

To the Editor of The Washington Times:
The writer of the letter which appears in this issue of the 3d, under the heading "Defender of Lee," offers a very lame excuse for the South to secede from the Union in 1861.

The South at that time had as much protection under the Constitution as any of the Northern States; in fact, more for their party was in power.

President Lincoln was fully justified in calling for 75,000 men, as Congress sustained him in this matter, for South Carolina had already committed treason by firing on Fort Sumter, which had a garrison at that time of only seventy-five men of the old regular army.

F. O. R. JUSTICE.

Capital Tales

Many Will Retire.

A CONSIDERABLE number of members of the House have already given it out they will not seek re-election for the next House. The reasons they assign are various. In some cases, the political unrest is the real cause.

Among those who are going to step out at the end of this Congress, making no effort to remain, are Lowden of Illinois, Cooper of Pennsylvania, Sperry of Connecticut, Reynolds of Pennsylvania, Huff of Pennsylvania, Dawson of Iowa, Jamieson of Iowa, Fess of Massachusetts and Hixson of New York.

One or two others have made up their minds to quit, but have not announced it.

The dropping out of Sperry will deprive the House of a unique figure. He will soon be eighty-three years old, and has been in politics nearly sixty years.

Dickinson's Valet.

IF Secretary of War Dickinson had been born in the Cabinet in the previous Administration he would have given Gifford Pinchot and "Gummy" Garfield a hard run for their money in being boom companions of former President Roosevelt.

The two former Government officials were especially dear to Colonel Roosevelt, not only for their official ability, but also because they were of the strenuous type which does not hesitate to start off on a long jaunt.

Secretary Dickinson neither enjoys an automobile ride or a ride in his Government carriage. His big frame never darkens the door of a street car. When he wants to go anywhere he walks, except perhaps, in the evening, when he attends a foreign reception.

Secretary Dickinson may be seen walking down Connecticut avenue in the direction of the War Department with a stride which would give joy to the heart of Colonel Roosevelt. He takes his constitutional at an hour, too, which would indicate that it is not safe for his subordinates to get on to their jobs after 9 o'clock.

Mr. Dickinson evidently does not believe in enjoying the luxuries which are dear to the hearts of many statesmen in Washington. For instance, he has no use for a valet. As he walked down to the War Department, recently, a friend noticed that a piece of paper was fastened to his chin, indicating plainly that a razor had slipped.

"You ought to teach your man to be more careful when he shaves you in the morning," the Secretary's friend volunteered. "When that razor slipped this morning I reproached myself vigorously and I do not believe I will offend again."

Regalia Discarded.

ASSISTANT SECRETARY LATTA, of the President's staff, has temporarily discarded the long frock coat and silk hat he wore during the winter months when he made his daily trips to the Capitol with messages and papers to the President.

In his winter uniform the Assistant Secretary was undoubtedly the most distinguished looking personage among all the personages of the Capitol. As a message bearer he appears at the door of the Senate or House and delivers the beribboned documents.

At legislative business is suspended when the Vice President or Speaker announces that "the Senate (or House) will receive a message from the President of the United States." There is always a craning of necks in the galleries at this announcement. The uninitiated spectator is never quite certain but what he will catch a glimpse of the President himself.

Latta now comes and goes in garb like that of an ordinary Senator, and the guides are no longer questioned as to his identity.

Elkins' Good Humor.

SENATOR ELKINS, who is engineering the passage of the railroad bill through the Senate, refuses to be perturbed or even irritated in debate.

Insurgents or Democrats may talk themselves black in the face, may heap protest upon protest, may charge and recharge the Senator's committee with bad faith, but the great good humor of the West Virginian never fails him. As a matter of fact, this good humor is the most disconcerting factor in the railroad debate.

The other day Senator Dixon told the Senate that he had approached Senator Elkins and asked him what rights a certain amendment had.

"Why, we have the votes, my boy, that is all there is to it," Senator Elkins is reported to have replied.

"Can't you take a joke?" Senator Elkins asked the Montana statesman, when he rose to explain the matter to the Senate.

Occasionally some insurgent beats the West Virginian into a rejoinder on the issues of the railroad bill, but this is the exception. Once in a while a Democratic provoker is spotted rejoinder from Senator Elkins, but this is even less often.

Second of Al Fresco Teas To Be Given at Country Club

Mrs. Boardman and Miss Mabel Boardman to Receive Guests on Lawn—Mr. and Mrs. Perry Belmont Give Luncheon.

Mrs. William J. Boardman and Miss Mabel Boardman will entertain at tea at the Country Club this afternoon from 4 to 7 o'clock. This is the second of these enjoyable al fresco entertainments that Mrs. Boardman and her daughter have given this season, the first having been held at the Country Club last Monday afternoon.

Quantities of spring flowers will adorn the club rooms and the porches, and, if the weather permits, Mrs. Boardman will receive her guests on the lawn.

Mr. and Mrs. Perry Belmont entertained a large party at luncheon today.

Mrs. Francis Curtis

To Be Hostess at Reception.

Mrs. Francis Curtis will be hostess at a reception this afternoon from 4 to 7 o'clock, in her apartment in the Woodley.

In compliment to Mrs. Desmond Humphreys, the English novelist.

Assisting Mrs. Curtis in receiving her guests will be Mrs. Oscar King Davis and Mrs. L. White Busby. Little Miss Berenice Harper, Miss Marta Davis, and Miss Jannette Curtis will also assist in dispensing the hospitalities of the afternoon.

Palms and clusters of roses and carnations will adorn the rooms, and an orchestra will play during the afternoon. Mrs. Humphreys is spending some time in this country getting material for a new book she is writing, which will deal chiefly with American people and American ways.

Mrs. Hunt Slater

Pays Visit to Boston.

Mrs. Hunt Slater left Washington this morning for a visit to Boston. Miss Dagmar Rubner, who has been her guest for some time, has gone to Friendship for a visit to Mrs. John R. McLean.

The Naval Attache of the Russian Embassy and Mme. Vassiloff have engaged a cottage at Manchester-by-the-Sea for the summer, and will leave Washington about the middle of June.

Mrs. William Alden Smith, wife of Senator Smith, will leave Washington May 24, for the summer, going to her home in Grand Rapids, Mich.

The Minister of Switzerland and Mme. Ritter will leave Washington May 27 for Long Island, where they will make a few visits before sailing for Europe June 7. They will remain abroad the entire summer.

Miss Katherine Leech

Hostess at Informal Luncheon.

Miss Katherine Leech was hostess at an informal luncheon party today.

Mr. and Mrs. William Phelps Eno will close their Washington residence and leave for New York Wednesday. They will sail May 21 for Europe to spend the summer season.

Mrs. S. C. Neale will be hostess at a bridge tea this afternoon at her residence on Sixteenth street.

John Frederick Leach is spending a few days in New York.

Mrs. Chafard is spending a few days in Baltimore.

Series of Parties

Planned for Miss Brooks.

Miss Margaret C. C. Brooks, daughter of Dr. E. C. Brooks, whose marriage to Dr. Lucius Warren Johnson, U. S. N., will take place on Tuesday afternoon.

GIRL LIFEGUARD ASKS JOB ON BEACH

Atlantic City Authorities in Consternation at Latest Possibility.

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J., May 9.—The possibility of a pretty girl lifeguard has created a furor among the fashionable young men bathing, following application by an athletic maid to be appointed on the list of beach lifeguards.

City officials declare they will not consider the appointment of a girl guard, but preserve the honor of the city by the girl, whose photograph shows her to be young and attractive.

Objection to the appointment of a woman lifeguard is based on the probability that her presence at any one of the bathing stations would draw crowds of male bathers.

AUNT DELIA RAISING ROSE BUSH FOR TAFT

It Is Destined for a Place in the White House Grounds.

MILLSBURY, Mass., May 8.—In her old-fashioned garden Aunt Delia Torrey is raising a bush of Killarney roses to send to her nephew, President Taft. If it fulfills its present promise it is destined for a place on the White House grounds.

In the same garden she is cherishing six other rose bushes, a gift to her from the President. When the President was William Taft the boy, he and his brothers loved to hear from Aunt Delia's tips the pretty fables from Greek mythology of the hyacinth and of the narcissus.

"I'm sure President Taft is loathe to see my rosebush in bloom. See here are the six new rose bushes he sent me this week," said Aunt Delia.

The Young Lady Across the Way

The young lady across the way says she guesses her father must be making money very fast as she overheard him tell her mother that his debit account had never been so large as it was now.



SWEET GIRL GRADS TO FIGHT FOR VOTES

Former Minnesota College Students Plan "Gypsy Tour" of West.

MISS ELSA UELAND AT HEAD OF PLAN

Example Set By English Women Will Be Followed By Their American Cousins.

Inspired by the example of their English sisters, American college girls who have taken up the suffragist cause will make a campaign in the Northwest during the coming summer quite unique in American politics. Chartering a roomy wagon of the prairie chopper type, they will tour the country, living a gypsy life and pleading for woman's suffrage.

The scheme is being worked up by Miss Elsa Ueland, a graduate of the University of Minnesota, who is now engaged in settlement work in New York, and it is probable that, if finances are needed, Mrs. Oliver H. P. Belmont, who has been taken up with enthusiasm by Miss Anna Shaw, president of the National American Woman Suffrage Association, will furnish the necessary funds.

A Norse Woman.

Miss Ueland, who is of Norse parentage, got her idea from an English girl, Miss Kay Costello, who was the originator of the scheme in England, and who thinks it would meet with great success in this country. Miss Costello is now on a visit to America. She attended the suffragist convention in Washington. She will remain in the country to study conditions for a month or so and return to England to work in the campaign there. Miss Costello, although still quite young, is a member of the executive committee of the Non-militant Suffragist Association of England.

"We have not quite completed our plans for the gypsy tour," Miss Ueland said, in discussing the coming campaign. "but several Minnesota graduates and a number of other girl college graduates now in New York have determined to make the tour. Our objective point just now is South Dakota, where one of the issues in the State campaign is votes for women."

"I shall leave New York for my home in Minnesota in June and look over the situation. We will have to figure on the cost and on an itinerary that will give us the best use of our time. The best we can do will be to follow the river, as possible, the courses of the river, because then we will have an itinerary on which the towns are closest together."

Will Have Chaperon.

"If it is necessary to have a chaperon, and I suppose it will be, my sister and her husband have promised to chaperon us. We will live in the wagon and forage on the country as we go along. Of course, I don't mean to say we will beg our food. We will buy as much as we can on the way."

"Should we find that we can accomplish anything by holding open meetings in the towns we pass through, and by an intimate campaign among the wives of farmers and ranchmen, we will branch out into other States and make a regular business of wagon campaigning."

Miss Costello is firmly convinced that the gypsy-wagon scheme will prove successful in America, as it has in England. She and four college companions are now in England, and now that British suffragists have a string of wagons that they sent all over the country during the summer months these wagons have become as much a part of the English campaign as the suffragettes themselves.

During the summer months these wagons have become as much a part of the English campaign as the suffragettes themselves. During the summer months these wagons have become as much a part of the English campaign as the suffragettes themselves.

FUNERAL IS HELD FOR WALTER DRURY

Services Are At St. Stephen's Church With Requiem Mass.

WASHINGTON TIMES-BUREAU, GEORGETOWN, D. C., MAY 9.

The funeral of C. Walter Drury, who died Friday afternoon at his residence, 814 Prospect avenue, was held this morning at 9 o'clock from St. Stephen's Church, Twenty-fifth street and Pennsylvania avenue, with a requiem mass. Interment was at Mt. Olivet Cemetery.

The sixth anniversary of the chartering of William R. Singleton Lodge, No. 20, F. A. A. M., was observed last evening. The members assembled in their hall on Wisconsin avenue in Tenleytown, and marched in a body to Edinboro Methodist Episcopal Church, on the Maryland Road. The services were conducted by the Rev. Allen F. Poore, the pastor, who delivered an interesting address, appropriate to the occasion.

The annual entertainment in aid of the fresh air fund, under the auspices of the Girls' Club and classes of the Georgetown Branch of the Christ Child Society, will be held Thursday and Friday evenings, May 26 and 27, in Trinity School Hall, Thirty-sixth and N streets. The program will be under the direction of Miss Tonita Ridgway.

J. Newton Maynard, aged forty-eight, of Falls Church, Va., while running to catch a car of the Old Dominion line, which was just leaving its terminal, fell and severely injured his knee.

James Willett, for some years deputy collector of the port of Georgetown, has resigned his position.

Mrs. Levin Frey and her daughter, Miss Helen Frey, of P. Atlantic City, have returned from a visit to Atlantic City.

Miss Bessie Birch,